been sanctioned under the scheme. Out of the sanctioned amount, a sum of Rs. 104.5719 lakh has already been released, (b) and (c) Does not arise.

Textiles industries in the country

189. SHRI R.K. MAHESHWARI: Will be Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) how many textiles industries are in the country as on 31st October, 2003;

(b) whether some of these textiles industries/units have been wound up due to lack of finance; and

(c) if so, whether Government are considering any scheme to revive the sick units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The total number of cotton/ man-made fiber textile mills (Non-SSI) as on 31 st October, 2003 is 1880.

(b) Textile being the oldest and largest industry of the country, it is but natural that at any given point of time some textile units could be lying closed due to various reasons including lack of finance.

(c) The Government seeks to foster a policy regime, which facilitates growth and development of India industry. It has taken a number of steps for revival of sick industrial units which, *inter-alia,* include, guidelines of the Reserve Bank of India to banks, amalgamation of sick units with healthy units, setting up of Board for Industrial and financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, etc. The Reserve Bank of India has been issuing from time to time elaborate guidelines covering all areas of industrial rehabiliation *viz.* detection of industrial sickness at incipient stage, identification of sick/ weak units, carrying out viability study of the units then extending relief and concessions to only viable units, co-ordination among banks and financial institutions and banks themselves, norms for promoter's contribution, extended period for repayment/rescheduling of loans, conversions and waiver of penal rate/compound interest, etc.

With effect from 15th September, 2003, Government of India in the Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs has announced a package for restructuring of high cost debt of textile mills/units in the organized sector. The package would be applicable to potentially viable textile units/mills with a minimum debt exposure of Rs. 2 crore. This package does not apply to sick units.